

State Fire Control Objectives

- Safety of personnel tasked to the incident
- Protection of members of the community, including keeping the community informed
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets
- Aggressive first attack on new outbreaks
- Protection of conservation and environmental values

Daily Incident Overview

- There is no Total Fire Ban today.

Agency	Going	Contained	Under Control
DSE	13	16	100
CFA	6	1	1

(Eight of these fires are managed jointly, with 5 lead by DSE and 6 by CFA)

- DSE and CFA are working together to monitor fire potential and respond to any threats.

Current Significant Fire Details

The following situation report comments are the best available information at the time of publishing, and are only a snapshot representation of current events. They do not cover the full extent of statewide fires.

Kinglake Complex – 99,250 Ha

- Fire behaviour has been quiet in most sectors today.
- Direct responses to any flare ups or break outs will occur with aerial support as required.
- Continued asset protection as required.

Yea- Murrindindi Complex 110,000 Ha

- The northern fire fronts on the Black Range (Alexandra sector) and Blue Range (Thornton sector) continue to back down slowly to control lines. Crews are continuing to patrol control lines.
- Breaks are being consolidated on private property at Narbethong, Buxton, Crystal Creek, Connelly Creek and Taggerty
- An awareness message for Thornton and Rubicon was issued for smoke due to burning operations

Churchill-Jeeralang – 35,886 Ha

- Quiet fire activity, with current perimeter at approximately 278km
- Current strategy is to contain fire to current area, with line construction and blackout in accessible areas
- Many 000 calls related to flare ups & smokers within the perimeter
- Northern division has unburnt ground within boundary, with some potential asset threat
- Two thermal imaging camera crews working the area

Beechworth-Library Road (Murmungee) – 30,700 Ha

- Has been relatively quiet.
- 85% contained, with some burning out occurring
- FLIR being used for hotspot detection
- Being managed by local resources

Bunyip SP – Bunyip Ridge Track – 27,230 Ha

- Smaller active fire approximately 4km NE of Bunyip, burning in a westerly direction
- Residents in Morrisons Rd, Wimpole Rd, Tonimbuk Rd areas may be directly impacted upon by smoke and embers
- Damp conditions overnight reduced backburning opportunities

Dargo - White Timber Spur – 15,000 Ha

- 4 – 10 mm of rain, too wet for backburning
- No running edge for days
- 20-30km of control line, with mostly mopping up and patrolling occurring

Wilsons Promontory - Cathedral – 2,850 Ha

- Easterlies are pushing the fire west
- Some waterbombing occurring
- Ongoing asset protection works around Tidal River and Yanakie
- No significant increase in fire area with some running edge developing in NW sector
- Some further re-ignition in NE sector, with one hot spot remaining in the South Cathedral area
- Indigenous cultural values management is part of planning and planning unit will provide liaison with traditional owners

East Tyers – Thomson – 1,621 Ha

- Fire edge being monitored to ensure all are blacked out and/or contained
- Numerous hotspots within burnt area

Mitta - Little Snowy Creek – 380Ha

- Containment strategy going well
- Nil fire activity except for burning out in SE corner
- FLIR to inspect hotspots

Maroondah Yarra Complex – 25,808 Ha

- Contains a cluster of fires including:
 - O'Shannassy – Road 8 – 16,118 Ha
 - Healesville – Chum Creek 7,500 Ha (see below)
 - Britania Range - Platts Creek – 165 Ha

Healesville – Chum Creek – 7,500 Ha

- Former Chum Ck fire has joined with the Mt Riddell fire behind a backburn
- Fire activity east of Healesville moving up Mt Juliet to the East is likely to increase nervousness in the local community but it is not a threat at this time
- Dozers deployed north of Badger Creek to protect private property
- Significant smoke in this area to be expected across the afternoon and into the evening
- Communities in the area are no longer under direct threat from this fire, however alert message stands
- Significant work undertaken around Toolangi township in the last few days.

Losses

Fatalities 181

State / Community Infrastructure	103	
Private Dwellings	1834	
Agricultural Assets	385	
Fire Affected Area	413,305 Ha	(This figure includes current going and contained fires.)

Resources Committed

NEO resources committed:

Human Resources: 4363 personnel, including 2008 NEO staff and 2355 other.

Approximately 1853 CFA fire fighters are deployed (Figure updated due to improved reporting)

Other Resources:

DSE: 56 fire tankers, 128 slip-on units, 91 bulldozers. 38 aircraft

CFA: There are currently 338 CFA appliances

Interstate and Overseas resources:

NSW RFS: 44 strike team vehicles (200 personnel) *NSW Fire Brigades:* 45 personnel, 13 appliances, 5 NSW Ambulance personnel with 3 vehicles

NSW National Parks Services: 21 appliances (39 people)

Tasmania: 110 personnel and 30 appliances

ACT: 105 personnel, 20 appliances

SA: 123 personnel, 19 appliances

WA: 22 personnel, (IMT, sector commanders, forest fire crews)

International 120 fire specialists from the US, Canada and New Zealand

Weather

Weather Situation

High pressure cell over Tasmania will move to the east. Established easterly airflow over the state.

Temperatures in the mid to low 20s.

Forecast for Saturday

Relatively light easterly regime with a broad ridge to the south. Isolated showers in the far east clearing. Fire dangers lower to barely reaching very high over the northwest.

Forecast for Sunday

A warm day with S to SE winds, milder near the coast with afternoon seabreezes. Generally fine conditions, although isolated showers are forecast for East Gippsland.

Fire danger reaching Very High over northern districts.

Forecast for Monday

Warm with light to moderate NE winds inland, but milder near the coast with afternoon seabreezes.

Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are a significant possibility.

Fire danger only reaching very high over the northwest.

Communications

- 13 Urban Search and Rescue teams have been established at Kinglake and Marysville
- VBIL operating on 24hr basis; continuing high level of interest and queries from public with approximately 3,000 calls received yesterday, with another 2,500 today as at 2pm.
- Both DSE and CFA continue to provide information updates to local communities.
- Primary focus is on safety of fire fighters and public.
- A number of international media inquiries have been received overnight.
- Residents are asked to remain vigilant, cooperate with emergency services.

Community Meetings

Tonight

- Christmas Hills at Christmas Hills North FS: 6 - 7:30pm
- Kergunyah and Gundowering Upper at Kergunyah Hall 7:30 til 9pm
- Healesville at The Memorial Hall 9pm-10:30pm
- Whittlesea at Whittlesea Community Centre 7-8:30pm

Tomorrow Night (Feb 14th)

- Christmas Hills at Christmas Hills North FS: 6 - 7:30pm
- Myrtleford at Savoy Club 3-4pm
- Porepunkah at Porepunkah Hall 12pm-1pm
- St Andrews at St Andrews Community Centre at 11am-12pm
- Traralgon at Premier Function Centre 11am – 12pm
- Warrandyte at Warrandyte Hall 7-8pm



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